

South Anchorage High School
Academic Programs/Smaller Learning Communities Committee
December 2, 2003
Old Dimond High School Library 3:30-5:00pm

Chuck Fannin, opened the meeting at 3:35 P.M. by asking all participants to introduce themselves.

He then took a few minutes to explain his expectations for the South Anchorage High School Academic Programs/Smaller Learning Communities Committee. This was to be the first of a series of meetings designed to discuss and eventually provide advisory direction relative to academic programs, smaller learning communities, the school schedule, and curriculum and instructional issues. One of the major goals of the first meeting was to determine the purpose of the committee and how it would help provide guidance and direction for the school administration in the topic areas listed above. It was decided that once the committee felt that significant discussion and fact-finding on a topic item had occurred, a super majority (66 2/3 %) affirmation manifestation of those present would move it forward to the principal for his consideration and/or action and implementation. The group strongly expressed its desire to be advisory in nature.

The following schedule and topics for meetings were selected and approved by the committee.

December 18th, 2003-Old Dimond High School Library from 3:30-5:00: Seminar Program, and the International Baccalaureate Program. If time permits, SLC discussions will begin.

January 13th, 2004-Old Dimond High School Library from 7:00-8:30: Smaller Learning Communities (SLC). SLC Status of other Anchorage Comprehensive high Schools.

January 29th, 2004-Old Dimond High School Library from 3:30-5:00: Continued SLC Discussion

February 10th, 2004-Old Dimond High School Library from 3:30-5:00: SLC Discussion / Advisory manifestation from the committee / Schedule and Number of lunches discussion

February 26th, 2004-Old Dimond High School Library from 7:00-8:30: SLC, type of schedule, lunch and final advisory on all the topics. Set schedule and topics for next two months.

The committee broke into smaller groups to review a sample of belief statements and to develop five to eight belief statements that they would bring back to the large group to share. In a large group setting, the statements were presented and reviewed from each of the groups.

South Anchorage High School Belief Statements (DRAFT)

- **All students can learn, achieve and succeed.**
- **High expectations and a challenging learning environment increase individual student performance.**
- **Students, staff, parents, and community share responsibility for supporting the students and school to reach their full potential.**
- **Education is a part of life-long learning which emphasizes thinking as well as skills.**
- **Caring relationships based on fairness, equity, and respect foster a safe learning environment.**
- **Students will be encouraged to enrich their education through involvement in extracurricular or co-curricular activities.**
- **Appreciation of cultural diversity enriches our community.**
- **Technological proficiency is an essential life skill.**
- **In order for an academic program to be successful, parental involvement is crucial.**
- **Instructional practices will address all ability levels with a variety of learning styles.**
- **The academic program must accommodate and meet the needs of all students.**
- **A variety of programs will be provided to prepare all students to function as responsible and productive citizens.**

The committee asked that the SAHS staff put together the belief statements and present them for an affirmation manifestation and send them out to the committee members to review. The committee agreed to adjourn at 5:10pm

Next Academic Program Meeting: December 18th, 2003 from 3:30-5:00 in the Old Dimond High School Library.